and Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL). Further investigations are being carried out by CBI, AHD, Ranchi. However, the progress made by the CBI in this regard has not been intimated.

(d) and (e) After getting the reports of CBI, suitable action will be taken against person/persons found guilty.

Conversion of coal into liquid and gas

†141. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new technique named CTL has been invented under which coal can be converted into liquid or gas;

(b) if so, whether Coal India Limited is formulating any scheme to convert some quantity of coal reserve available in our country into said form by using the above technique; and

(c) the proposed outline of the said scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) As per information received from Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, coal can be converted to liquid fuel using Coal to Liquid Technology (CTL) where coal is gasified using modern gasification technologies in large scale plants to produce syngas which is then purified, catalytically converted to hydrocarbons and then refined to high quality fuels by using slurry phase Fischer-Tropsch Synthesis (FTS). Success of CTL is based on the property of the coal and the coal gasification technology used for producing syngas.

(b) and (c) As reported by Coal India Ltd. (CIL), they are not formulating any scheme for conversion of coal to liquid. However, Oil India Ltd. (OIL) under the administrative control of Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas is carrying out some trial to convert coal into oil in Assam. In this context, Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Ltd., Ranchi has prepared a pre-feasibility study on availability of coal from North Eastern Coalfields of CIL for commercial coal liquefaction plant of O.I.L.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.